no sin to imility ICALLY on ati , managed)

## VOL. XXXIV.

years certain political reasons seemed to point out the wisdom of suling the whole of this great territory to the United States. M O ITS VAST RESOURCES. M O O Ressis and the United States, the young fauta respectively of the Old and New Worlds, are at this moment, although in most respects the antipodes of each other, engaged in the same work—that of expansion and progression. No two nations at once bear a more forcible resemblance, and whibit a more striking contrast, and at this moment no two, despite the aggressive polary of Prussis or the menacing silence of the earth; unknown solithees, which only a few of our hardy pioneers and navigators had penetrated; and it is to those early br are likely to accomplish more stopendons resolts. The ultimate object at which
Russia alons is the acquisition of the European passessions of the Sultan. With the
elty of Constantinople, the command of the
Boschorus and the commerce of the Black
Sea under her control—an unbroken territory extending from the Arctic to the Mediterranean, and stretching across Asia—she
would be effectually mistress of Europe.
The United States do not define their aspilack quietly forward to the

on ited States do not name their aspi-ens, but look quietly forward to the when the "whole boundless continent" form one anbroken republic. The re-kable entente cordiale which for a quar-of a century has been increasing be-en as, renders this similarity of object tives. At the expiration of this term of ten years the Emperor declined to renew the treaty or allow our vessels to trade on the

ter of Foreign Affairs, was first the renewal of the fourth article of the treaty of 1824 united States should be regarded; for this territory, embracing a country more than seven times as large as the State of New Tork is the spontaneous offer of the Emperor, and entirely unexpected and nasolicited on the part of the United States. This is the second time to have been suggested with the same spirit of friendly sympathy which, when the two chief powers of Western Europe were on the bolat of recognizing the Southern. Confederacy, prompted the anchoring of two large Russian ficets, as if by accident at the time, one in the labor of New York and the other in the bay of San Francisco—sallent but eloquent into keep hands off. The officers of both fleets became the public guests of the respective communities. The spectacle had its effect, and recognition was abandoned. Of course Russia has her own interests to subserve in this transaction, and quietly enjoys the ill-concealed chagrin of her old course. Russia has her own interests to trade in those regions, and, consequently, American reading vessels could not be easily bemmed in, north, west, and south, by her republican neighbor. Russia is also republican neighbor. Russia is also grant. Thus, while Russian ships were ad ittle rejuctant to part with a territory mitted freely to all American waters, the which, owing to its remoteness from the Russian Government found itself unable entre of government, can never be of without violating private rights, to concede the same privileges to us. This has at times deeply annoyed Baron Stockel, the Rustriend and ally it becomes of immediate

importance in every point of view. Under the rule of the Russian Trading Company it yielded little or no revenue to the im-In the summer of 1854, during the Crime rish treasury, the monopoly consuming the profits and sharing but a tithe of the an war, the Russian Government, cousid ering the opportunity favorable, resolved burdens of its government. There was every reason why Russia should cede, and why we should acquire this immense tract of territory. The information concerning of territory. The information concerning northwest coast by conveying the Russian territories to a people whose activity and proximity would create a powerful rival to routes of commerce must necessarily be at best, only of a general nature. Facts, therefore, obtained from personal experience, and reliable data from recent explorers, and reliable data from recent explorers. may serve to illustrate the prominent fea- the United States. " inom out lo of the co

more detailed examinations can be made. THE OFFER REPUSED BY PIERCE AND HIS CABINET. A GLANCE AT RUSSIAN AMERICA HISTOR-President Pierce declined the offer, for reasons never made public, but which also Russian books furnish interesting particinduced him about the same time to refuse ulars of the discovery of the Ameri- the gift of the whole of the republic of can coast north of 58 50 by Captain Behring, who was sent out on a voyage of exploration in 1733 by the Empress Ann of Russia. He also discovered the greater part of the islands between the two continents. Russia. He also discovered the greater part of the islands between the two continents. From that time Russian hunters and trappers from Okhotsk began to extend their expeditions to the north yest coast of America. Positive information exists of about forty expeditions of this kind during the last half of the eightness century. The Andrejanoff Islands (a portion of the Alentian archipelego) were formally annexed to Russia in 1766. A government exploration started from Okhotsk in 1790, under the command of Captain Billings. To Cap by persons then, as now, ignorant of its by persons then, as now, ignorant of its positive value to us, commercially and politically.

This was as great a mistake as that untries and ethnology of those countries. The

Instantempt at a permanent settlement was live to three Russian traders. Shelekhoff and two Golikoffs—who litted out two or three ressels to be sent "to the land of Aliaski, also called America, to islands known or unalso called America, to islands and to islands known or unalso called America, to islands known or unalso cal known, for the purpose of trading in furs, of exploring the country, and entering into relations with the inhabitants. Their first expedition started in 1781, and the first set thement was founded on the Island of Kadjak. The authority of the Russian Government then really cared for in that region. The development of the mineral and other resent islands. In 1790, Shelekhoff, then residence of British Columbia has since demining at Irkoutsk, sent out the merchant

Baranoff to govern the new colony. The name of Baranoff, who for twenty-seven tears was the controlling inind of the new colony. The new colony. The new colony. The new colony is the wisdom and foresight of her persistency. enterprise, thus appeared for the first time in its history. Shelekhoff died in 1795, and his widow continued the business, which gradually increased, especially after combining with the Milukoff Company. The charter of this joint company was signed in August, 1798, and confirmed at St. Petersbury in 1799. Nova Arkhangelsk, on the August, 1798, and confirmed at St. Petersburg in 1799. Novo Arkhangelsk, on the island of Sitka, now known as the town of that name, was founded in 1799. The boundaries of the lands granted to the company, and defined in its renewed charter of 1821, were formally confirmed and acknowledged by the treaties with the United States in 1824 and Great Britain in 1825. Such is, in heief the history of the Russian American Trading Company availing itself turing, and agricultural station at Bodega, just north of San Francisco, and erected a and Great Britain in 1825. Such is, in brief, the history of the Russian American Trading Company of the present day, whose extended charter has lately expired, never to be renewed. Emulous of the remarkable success attending the Hudson Bay Company's enterprise, they gradually pushed their operations in all directions and extended their stations far beyond the originally prescribed limits, having at last reached the coast of Chilifornia. This was prior to the Mexican independence, and the necessary privileges were conceded by the necessary privileges were conceded by the Spanish Government, who then owned Calfornia. They also stretched ever to the mediately in front of the richest gold mines Asiatic side along the Oknotsk Sea, and had several establishments there—one esin the word, which were discovered very soon afterwards, and although the terms of pecically at Ayan, in latitude 52 26 north, longitude 138 20 east. It has a population of about three hundred, with a Governor and a small garrison, and was tolerably well fortified in the Crimean war. The company also have establishments at Aliaska. Cook's Inlet. Bristol Bay, and Norton Sound, all on the American side of Behrman Straits and in the Alentin and

ing's Straits, and in the Aleutian and Governors Fuzujelm and Marsoutoff. Kurile Islands. These are their principal stations, but many smaller ones might be his residence at Sitka. His powers are abrentiened. Upon the expiration of their solute, embracing the death sentence. The charter, as above stated, the Government declined to renew it, despite the strenuous efforts on the part of the concessionists, who at the time were reaping a splendid harvest from their enterprise. They have now thirty-eight fur and trading stations along the coast, Sitka being the general headquarters. plishments, ably seconded the Governor in his philadthropic efforts towards instruct-The reasons of this refusal on the part of the Russian Government were, first, that the company had failed to meet the real oblights of the concession which we had been also been an instructing the people and forming establishments for their comfort and general improvement. Admiral Fuzujelm and family passed through San Francisco and New York in the summer of 1854 and where York in the Russian Government were, first, that the company had failed to meet the real objects of the concession, which were to encourage immigration to those regions, and induce the settlement of a population which would develop its mineral resources. This however, was what the company had no idea of doing; on the contrary, their interests pointed to the discouraging of all branches of industry, save that which yielded them their enormous profits—the furtrade. This business is diametrically opposed to agricultural pursuits, since farming tends to clear away forests, and, consequently, to thin off wild animals. It was also plainly injurious to this traffic to divert the attention of the natives from hunting to other pursuits; for, in a thinly-populated country every hand that can manage an our or use a gun is valuable. Hence the mining and agricultural andvantages of Russian America, under the monopoly of the company, have been studiously kept in the back ground, and the Government has seen, with much dissatisfaction, that while the development of California greatly benefited the company in reducing the

while the development of California greatbenefited the company is reducing the MINERAL RESOURCES OF RUSSIAN AMERICA. other articles from abroad, not the least our Russian American acquisition, composed resulted to Russia in developing the prising nearly five hundred thousand national resolurces. But another still more square miles of territory, will reward ex-

## Nice Timesia Tompessee, who is they happy to they happy to

COLUMBUS, O., FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 3, 1867.

ploration by turning up a valuable mineral country. The data are thus far rather scanty, but such as exist are to the point, and favor the above supposition. The Imperial Government was long desirous that the Russian American Company should thoroughly explore the interior, which, however barren in appearance, and unpromising in an agricultural point of view seemed likely to prove valuable in minerals. This was one of the objects of the grant made to that company; but their aim being immediate profit, and knowing that their lucrative fisheries would suffer in any minlucrative fisheries would suffer in any min-ing excitement, they shrewdly raised every possible objection against the prac-falls, flowers bloom in the open air the every possible objection against the practicability of prospecting the interior, urging as a principal reason the hostility of the natives. The Emperor thereupon offered them additional troops—in fact, as many as they wanted, the company to maintain them at its own expense. This they declined for some specious reason, and the Government, although convinced that gold existed there expecially after its successive.

BOIL COMPANIES. II A Company always was that gold might be discovered in British Columbia, which would ruin their lucrative for trade by the desertion of their employes to the places. At last, in 1858, the long-dreaded discovery tened to assert that it was all humbug, and, with their traditional dislike of immigration, advised strangers not to visit British Columbia. This has also been the policy of the Russian American Company. GOLD DISCOVERIES WORK NORTHWARD.

Spaniards, who, in the sixteenth century, fy the Russian American climate into that imagined that gold was confined to the of a mild country, the writer would entropics. No one suspected its existence in deavor to dissipate the erroneous ideas the north until the California marvel awoke which seem to have obtained concernthe world to the splendid reality. From ing it, that time richer gold fields have been continually developed northward, until those well, even with the rude cultivation which of British Columbia, far north of Fraser is youchsafed to them; and it is stated that river, promise to outshine all that has hitherto been found. Mr. Collins states teeted inland valleys, but this is subject to that gold mining has already been commenced by American prospectors on the lents thrive there wherever the soil is good Steeken or St. Francis river, as far north as or has been enriched, as is often done with fitty—ix degrees of latitude. This river flows into the sea through Russian Amerino good reason why grains and vegetables can territory, and the writer adds that the should not do as well there as in Nova prospect for gold on that river was reported to be equal to the palmy days of California. If these reports prove to be correct, our hardy miners along the northern frontier and in California will not be long in overand in California will not be long in over-running the country and exposing its hid-Company has been steadily opposed to diden treasures. On the Copper Mine river recting the attention of its employes away the Indians bring lumps and nuggets of pure copper into Kodiac and the settlements near the mouth of that river. Many large specimens of metalic copper and of copper or a large been taken to St. Particular the attention of its employes away from their lucrative fur trade, and for their reason agriculture has been discouraged. They have invariably kept a year's food on hand in their storehouses at Sitka, enough for their employes. copper ore have been taken to St. Peters-burg. DAZZLING ACCOUNTS BY ROCHE, THE EX-

PLORER. Roche, who seems to have traveled with and he had little doubt, from the comparison which he had made between the geographical features of both countries, that the whole region was as rich in minerals and ores as Siberia, and that upon a proper exploration gold would be found in the rivers and valleys. This was fifteen years ago, and a part of the prediction has already been fulfilled, as surface gold washings are branch. This, however, was just at the expiration of their monopoly, which has lasted about sixty years. Ploughs and farming implements are almost as unknown as they were in California in the days of the Spaniards. In fact, the country is in a completely primitive state, and cultivation, save in a few insignificant instances of kitchen gardens, and the like, scarcely experted as being successfully worked. He jasper, porcelain, clay, semi-opal, plumba-go, gypsum, various colored ochres, amber, sulphur, petroleum, galena, porphyry, va-riegated marble, and iron ore had been dis-

THEIR FUTURE NATIONAL VALUE. Mines of coal are known to exist in nuexists enough to meet all present or fu-

cisco northward to Oregon, where, in Coose Bay, are inexhuastible mines, from which a Francisco; thence northward, equally large coal-fields exist near the Umpqua river, and still further north, at Bellingham Bay, in Washington Territory, the most valuable coal mines on the Pacific coast have been successfully worked for ten or fitteen EXPLANATION OF THE MODERATE CLIMATE years. Those of Vancouver's Island are naval and merchant steamers, as well as the Pacific coast over the same parallels of the whole coal consumption in British Co- latitude on the Atlantic side is precisely lumbia. It is, consequently, nothing remarkable that Russian America should of England and France—the warm waters territory for Yankee ingenuity to work satisfactorily explains the moderate tem-upon, and it remains with ourselves to turn perature of the North Pacitic by this Imthem to profitable account.

CLIMATE AND WEATHER STATISTICS OF THE the coast of India and China towards Behr-NORTHWEST COAST. The so-called rigor of the Russian-American climate has been urged as a reason why the country cannot be worth our acwhy the country cannot be worth our acceptance. This results from a want of re- another gulf stream between the Phillipriable information about that region, and a general vague idea obtained from old chool books and encyclopædias, that it is a gene of frightful desolation and eternal ce. An impartial examination of the facts is obtained from those who have is obtained from those who have passed points of resemblance between this ocean nuch of their lives there might suffice to ay this ice-ghost. It is truly observed that Russian America is not especially an exercise the altered color of its many even the altered color of i

learly as far north as 60 degrees, but that warm currents at Behring's Straits and his cannot be done on the coast lands, and hat corn, despite the moist atmosphere, will not grow anywhere in the country. These facts formed a portion of a paper read before the Literary and Historical boolety of Quebec in 1855. The failure of the coast lands agricultur-

ally is not due to severity of climate, but rather to the soil, which, as has been already remarked, is generally poor along COMPARISON BETWEEN THE PACIFIC AND

ploration by turning up a valuable miner- of Edinburg. Its climate has sometime

existed there, especially after its successive discovery in Oregon, Washington Territory, and British Columbia, in regular progression northward, allowed the subject to subside.

GOLD EXCITEMENTS INJURIOUS TO FUR COMPANIES. the Lillocet country. There the climate is more rigorous, but at no time approaching the severity of the past winter throughout Middle and Northern States. Russian America, along its entire Pacific coast, from the latitude of 54 degrees 40 minutes around experienced so cold a winter as that we have just undergone on the Atlantic side. Sitka includes ice among its exports, with which it supplies all the American Pacific coast, and will before long send it to the ports of China and India. But so does the country around Boston, and yet a million The discovery of gold has been steadily people find that climate quite endurable to the northward since the days of the early Without attempting or desiring to magni-

loss of the annual ship loaded with sup-

Until lately not even a kitchen garden was cultivated at any of these coast settle eyes and ears open on the mineral subject, and who perhaps hoped that Russian America might some day be absorbed by its bigger British neighbor, grows elequent over total neglect the people are gradually the gold, silver, and even diamonds, destined to be found in that country. His soil can be made productive by tillage, al-statements respecting other parts of the though these lands are by no means as fercontinent have proved very correct, and bence the following is entitled to attention:
"Russian America," he says, "possesses in its minerals and ores far greater riches than its minerals and ores far greater riches than its furs or its fisheries, or even its forests to San Francisco for a cow, in order to have can be made to yield, the turning to account a supply of milk for a sick child, it was of which would give life to this whole region, and tend to raise up villages and animal—the only cow in Russian America towns as prosperous as those of far less hospitable Siberia." Coal and copper, he says, have been found along the Mackenzie. and he had little doubt, from the compari- branch. This, however, was just at the reported as being successfully worked. He ists, even in name. The soil of the new boldly asserts it as his belief that platinum. lead, silver, diamonds, and all the precious condition, be called unproductive; but it stones of Siberia would be found in the is not because it is utterly parren, or the nountains of Russian America. He adds climate too severe for agricultural purthat several valuable minerals, such as fine suits. In the hands of Americans, Rus-

covered. Whether these precious products The recent statements concerning the exist in any considerable quantities, Mr. climate south of Behring Straits are simply Roche does not say. He received these absurd to those who know the temperature statements from what he took to be reliable along the coasts. These ideas have been authority. COAL DEPOSITS OF RUSSIAN AMERICA AND the early voyagers, whose befogged and dozens of wide-awake adventurers are liv-Mines of coal are known to exist in numerous places on the Russian American coast and on the Aleutian Islands. It is generally of a bituminous character. The Russian steamers have long supplied themselves from the Kodiac mines, where alone selves from the Kodiac mines, where alone sometimes several weeks, and long and ture demands of commerce. The Russians, who are fully alive to the value of coal, have always had a keen eye for such deposits, both on the American and Asiatic coasts, for they know that it forms one of the most essential materials of war. They whaling shipmaster who has passed several who has passed several assembled a portion of Saghalion Island for now hold a portion of Saghalion Island for seasons in the far north, asserts that he has its valuable coal mines, and the English, seldom suffered more with the heat in the who are not less awake to its importance, have for some time been vainly influencing the Japanese to exclude them. This coal is of excellent quality, and the Russians is of excellent quality, and the Russians across the ocean nearly on the fifty-second sian American Company have for some parallel, are about in the latitude of the years past used the coal from Kodiac Island in their workshops and forges.

Coal is distinctly traced through California, from and within 30 miles of San Fran
which is generally milder than that of our which is generally milder than that of our Atlantic seaboard between the capes of Bay, are inexhuastible mines, from which a lucrative business is maintained with San after all that has been said in opposition to

ON THE NORTHWEST COAST. equally productive, and supply the British | The cause of the higher temperature of possess valuable coal mines. Iron mines, of the gulf stream. There exists in the Paperfectly accessible, and easily worked, are cific a gulf stream acting under nearly simalso found. There is, therefore, no lack of liar conditions with that of the Atlantic natural resources in the newly-acquired side. Maury, in his "Sailing Directions," mense warm ocean current flowing from ing's Straits. "This stream," he says, "esgricultural country. Compared with the even the altered color of its waters. It ich lands of Oregon and California, it cerwards the north, against the bend of the Roche, the French traveler, who pene- continent, to Russian America, where it is rated the interior of Russian America turned to the southward along the coasts

ome fifteen years ago, nevertheless gives a lattering account of the fertility of some ourses. He represents the inland country is being well watered with lakes and rivers, abounding, even to the Arctic circle, with splendid forests of large pines; and in astonishing vigor of vegetation, owing o the humidity of the atmosphere. He tates that the Hudson Bay Company, who are located upon the Russian possessions that the southward along the coasts of Oregon, California and Mexico.

The same facts, but in much fuller and more explicit manner, are given in Kerhallet's General Examination of the Pacific, translated and published by the Messrs. Blunt, in which the "Japan current," as he and other eminent navigators now term it, is minutely described. The Pacific guit stream, commencing in the vicinity of Loo Choo Island, sets rapidly along the Asiatic shores, whence, striking off across the ave located upon the Russian possessions shores, whence, striking off across the ocean in a well-defined belt, it expends its along the Russian American coast, where it turns along the coast southward to Call fornia. This remarkable stream varies in temperature, but runs as high as eighty-Behring's Straits, where it spreads out and

tempers the American coast climate for many degrees of latitude. Lieutenant Bent, United States navy, an able and experienced navigator, read a paper, some time since, on this subject before Sitka is situated on about the meridian this Pacific current are as decidedly mark-

is not less remarkable. Its softening influence is felt along our North Pacific shores tor's own words, "Vessels trading to Petropanlovski (on the Asiatic side), when becoming unwieldy from accumulations of ice on their bulls and rigging, run over to a higer latitude on the American coast, and thaw out, in the same manner that vessels frozen up on our own coast retreat again into the gulf stream until favored by an

This concurrent testimony, were it not corroborated by thousands of witnesses as to the mildness of the temperature of the northwest coast, should set at rest the fables of a frigid climate there; and, what is equally satisfactory, they divest the subject of vulgar mystery in explaining the causes by the simplest laws of nature. The ex-perience of the present writer on the north-west coast and the interior of British Columbia, added to the evidence of others to but one conclusion-that whatever objection may be raised against the final acquisition of Russian America, as regards its value, material or political, there are no grounds for rejecting it on the score of an inhospitable climate. As regards the northern coast, at Behring's Straits and around on the Arctic shore, there can be no question as to the severity of the win-ter. But it is not presumed that any contingency could arise which would call for a settlement there. The fisheries, fur trade, and general course of commerce, are to the southward, east of the sea of Kamtschatka, in the great bend of the ocean ly-ing between the eastern coast and the pen-insula, thence to China and India. NECESSITY OF AN EXPLORING EXPEDITION

BEING SENT FROM SAN FRANCISCO. There is a speedy and effectual way of solving these vexed questions of climate and the general value of Russian America. Our Government should without delay dispatch a steam revenue cutter from San Francisco for the special service this summer in exploring that portion of the coast which half a century of experience has taught the Russians is available for general commercial purposes. Such a vessel, if dispatched at once by telegraph—and one or two might now be mentioned as well calculated for the trip—would reach Sitka say by the middle of May, and quite in time for the breaking up of the northern winter and the opening of the inlets and rivers of the far north. At Sitka the local authorities would supply pilots and guides who have passed their lives in those regions, and the voyage of exploration could be completed, for all practical purregions, and the voyage of exploration could be completed, for all practical purposes, by October. The steamer would find an ample supply of coal at two or three well known mines, especially at Kediac Island. She could visit any or all of the company's posts or trading stations, of which, as has already been stated, there are thirty-eight, and uscertain, from actual observation and accounts taken on the spot. the whole story in time for the meeting of Congress next winter. Such a flying ex-pedition, of course, could not be expected to navigate any great distance up the Kylchrak or other large rivers or effect any
detailed exploration of the interior; but,
with an active and wide awake little corps
of the proper men, untrammelied by red
tape restriction, the expedition would bring
back more live information on all important points than could be obtained by years of fumbling among the accounts of ancient navigators and musty books of travel.-N

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g nov 29 dirico in UE STAIRS seel son evig A.W. GRAHAM ATTORNEY AT LAW. OFFICE-With HENRY C. NOBLE, Esq.,

Prompt attention given to business, and Busi S. W. ANDREWS Attornevat Law. OFFICE-In the Buckeye Block, CORNER OF HIGH AND BROAD STREETS Entrance on High street.

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